"Dinner at Eight" is Playing to Packed Business, Royal Alexandra, Toronto

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 25, No. 24 TORONTO 2, CANADA October 7th, 1933

WHILE SHOWMEN ARE ENJOYING THESE CURRENT BOX-OFFICE TID-BITS!

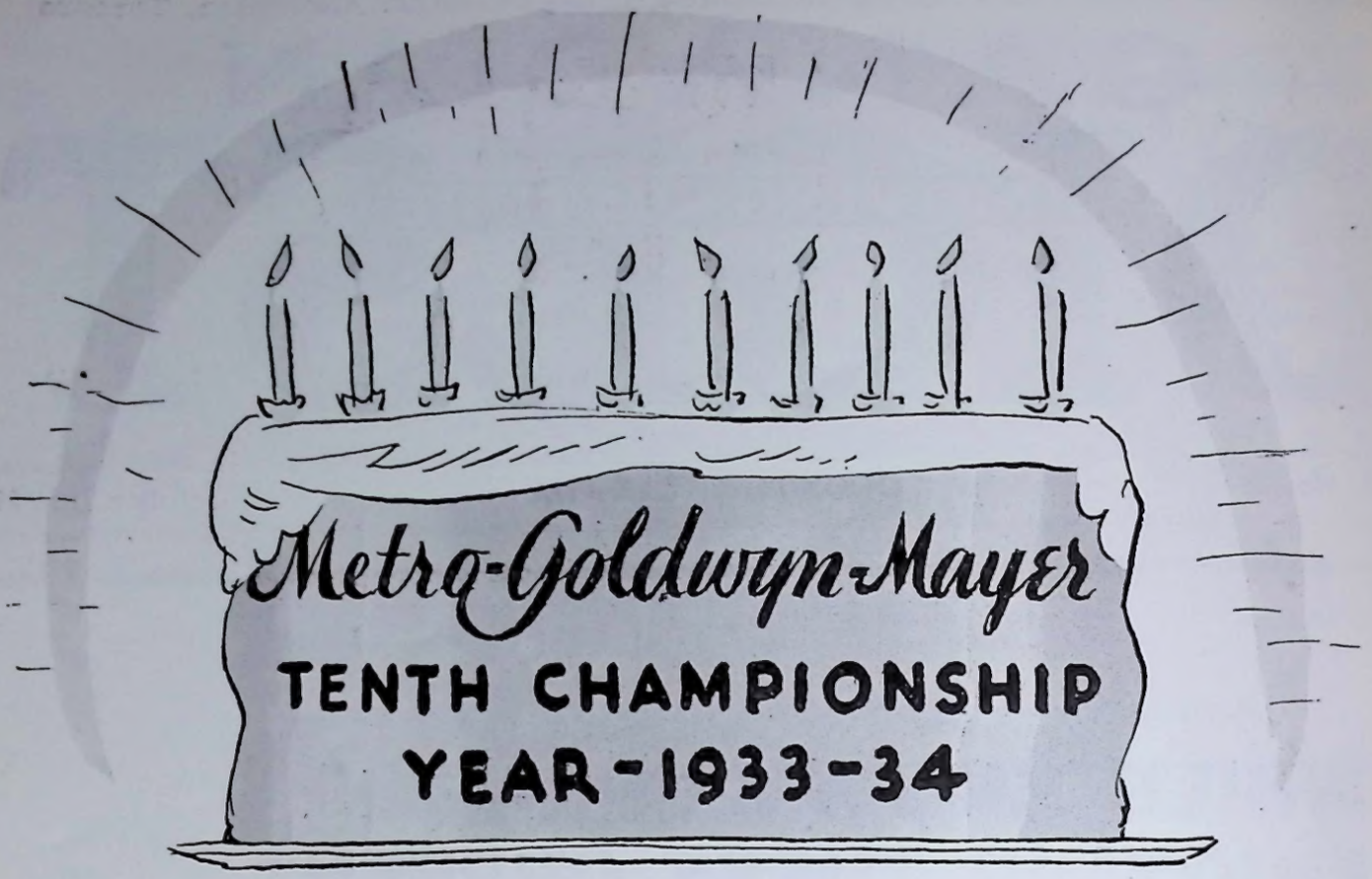
DRESSLER-BEERY in "Tugboat Annie"
WARNER BAXTER in "Penthouse" with Myrna Loy
HERBERT MARSHALL in "Solitaire Man" with Mary Boland, May Robson, Elizabeth Allan, Lionel Atwill
"BEAUTY FOR SALE" with MADGE EVANS, ALICE BRADY
LEE TRACY in "Turn Back the Clock"
ALICE BRADY in "Stage Mother"

GET READY FOR

"DINNER AT 8"
Capacity at $2 in New York and Los Angeles.
Road-shows Big Everywhere!

(see next page)

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2



This Cake is SWEET!

Just a happy hint of what's happening at M-G-M studios:

Greta Garbo, John Gilbert in "Queen Christina"* Norma Shearer in "Marie Antoinette"* Joan Crawford, Clark Gable in "Dancing Lady"* Marie Dressler, Lionel Barrymore in "The Late Christopher Bean"* John Barrymore, Helen Hayes, Clark Gable, Lionel Barrymore, Robert Montgomery, Myrna Loy in "Night Flight"* "Hollywood Party" starring Marie Dressler, Joan Crawford, Jean Harlow, Lupe Velez, Jimmy Durante, Jack Pearl* Johnny Weissmuller and Maureen O'Sullivan in "Tarzan and His Mate"* Jean Harlow and Lee Tracy in "Bombshell"* "Meet the Baron" with Jack Pearl* "Prizefighter and the Lady" with Max Baer, Myrna Loy, Primo Carnera* Ed Wynn in "The Fire Chief"* Ramon Novarro and Jeanette MacDonald in "The Cat and the Fiddle"* Marion Davies, Bing Crosby in "Going Hollywood"* John Barrymore, Lionel Barrymore in "The Paradine Case"* Wallace Beery in "Viva Villa"* Helen Hayes in "Wicked Woman"* Clark Gable, Robert Montgomery in "Two Thieves"* Wallace Beery, Jean Harlow, Clark Gable in "Soviet"*—and many, many more.

TENTH CHAMPIONSHIP YEAR

Observations — The Spotlight — By The Editor

THE Belle Theatre, Belleville, Famous Players Canadian Corp. theatre, has announced its theatre season as offering Belle Entertainment, "Canada's Finest".

Warner Bros., Paramount, RKO pictures are especially announced: Ten specials from Warner Bros.-First National include "Footlight Parade", with James Cagney, Ruby Keeler, Guy Kibbee, Dick Powell, etc. Cagney, stepping out of gangster roles, returns to his "old stage love", namely dancing.

Al Jolson will appear in the sensational musical hit, "Wonder Bar", which he made famous in the U.S. and in Europe.

Leslie Howard will appear in "British Agent", and Paul Muni in "The World Changes", the latter picture recently previewed in Los Angeles received the greatest ovation ever accorded a talking picture. Paul Muni will also appear in "Hi, Nellie", a Liberty Magazine story, which has been conceded to be the cleverest kind of a comedy.

Richard Barthelmess will appear in "Massacre" from the novel by Robert Gessnier.

Barbara Stanwyck will appear with Otto Kruger in a love-story, "Ever in My Heart", and again Barbara sings and dances in "Broadway and Back". Those who remember her will remember that Barbara Stanwyck like James Cagney, was a song and dance artist.

* * * *

ANOTHER variation for Warner Bros.-First National is that gangster films will be out. Edward G. Robinson is the lover in "I Loved A Woman", and he goes into history in the "Life and Loves of Napoleon". Still another role for Robinson is "Dark Hazard", a modern story.

Ruth Chatterton gets some great parts, while William Powell will not disappoint his hosts of followers in another Philo Vance role, "The Kennel Murder Case" from Van Dine's Cosmopolitan story of the same name. Powell will also appear in "The Gentleman from San Francisco."

Still among Warner Bros.-First National Ten, we find Joe E. Brown in "The Crowned Head" and another laughing hit with Joan Blondell and Ginger Rogers.

Ruby Keeler and Dick Powell will appear in "Sweethearts Forever" and "Classmates".

The Vitaphone Shorts will present headliners of Broadway, Fanny Brice, Ruth Etting, Paul Whiteman, Donald Novis, Ted Lewis, etc., etc.

* * * *

ALTOGETHER it looks like a big year for Warner Bros.-First National with its variety of stars and material, and the big idea of making stars reveal all their talents, no hidden charms, tragedy stars who will sing and dance, who will be soubrettes, like in ye good old days of show business, when Lady Macbeth was called upon to do a song and dance, to "split the ears of the groundlings" between the murder of the King and the "sleep walking scene", for the villagers enjoyed their leading-lady much more when she sang and danced for them after a stage murder.

THE Daily Film Renter of October 3rd has a front page article headed, "Canada Swings Towards Britain".

Twenty-five percent of the total programs for the year of 1933-34 of the Famous-Players Canadian Corp. theatres will present British productions in accordance with a statement accredited to Mr. N. L. Nathanson and as headlined in this English trade paper.

"It is contended that the Canadian public, through the efforts of Mr. Nathanson, as well as representatives of British producers, have become enthusiastic about British films, the outcome of which has been to eliminate any possibility of a Quota Law for the Dominion, as was formerly suggested," states the Daily Film Renter.

* * * *

COL. GOODWIN GIBSON appeared in the Court of Revision on behalf of the owners of the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, owned by Alexandra Co. Limited.

Reduction in assessment is requested, the plea being a scarcity of shows from which to obtain revenue.

Total land and building assessment is $196,942, but a purchaser can have the theatre property, including good-will, stated Col. Goodwin Gibson, for $111,000.

"The Shubert people who ran the theatre for years, won't send any shows there now," stated Col. Gibson, "and all we can do is to pick up an odd show in New York." Judgment was reserved on the appeal.

Ray Presents

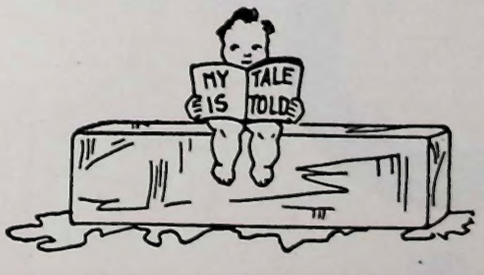
(Continued from page 4)

Arlen's "Green Hat", and in "Rip Tide", an original story written for her by Charles MacArthur.

MAURICE CHEVALIER in "The Merry Widow" is already box-office. Thalberg has world ideas, he refuses to be confined within the boundaries of Hollywood, or any other studio location. He believes that pictures should have an international setting, which means the "world for a stage".

"Marie Antoinette" has for its setting pre-revolutionary France. "The Merry Widow" travels to merry Vienna, "The Good Earth" is found in the present-day China.

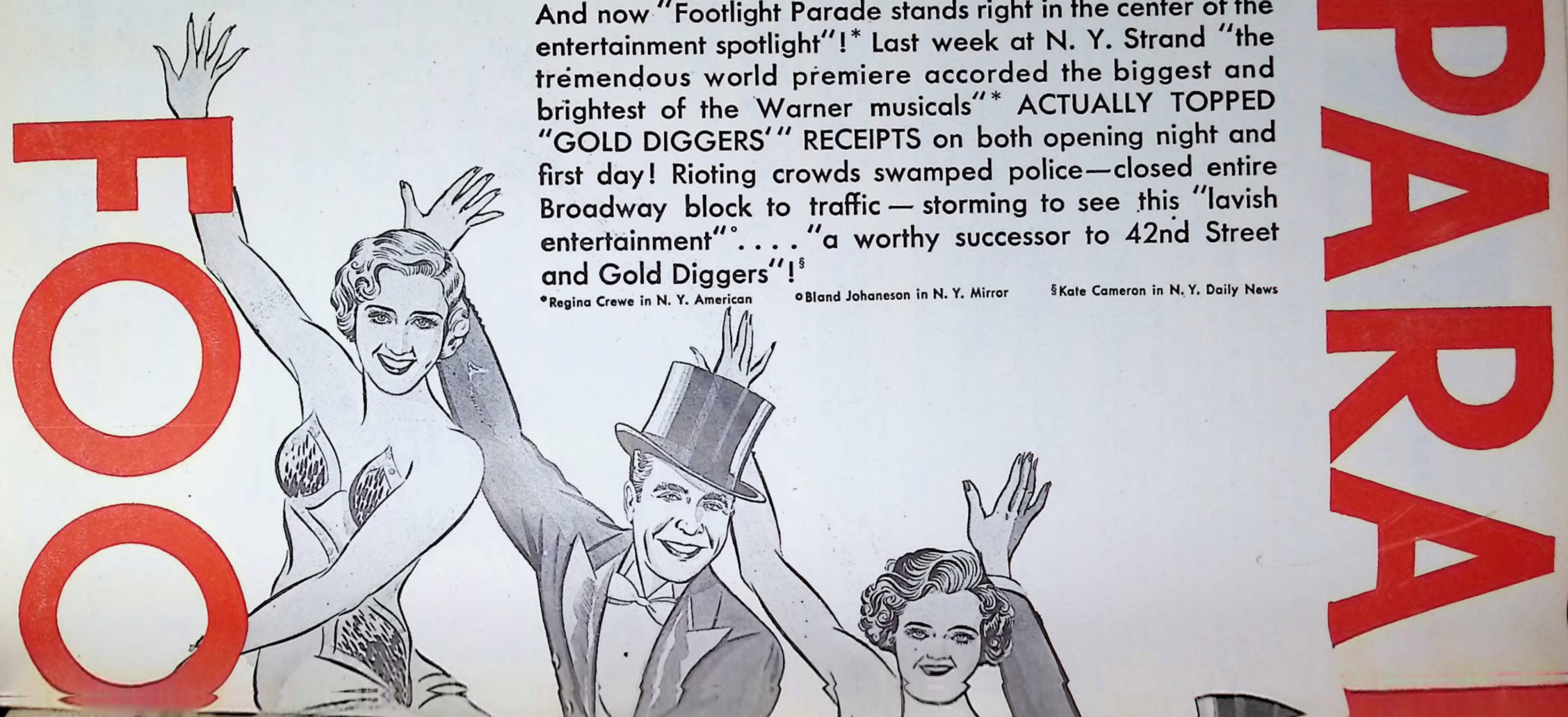
Edmund Goulding, who directed "Grand Hotel", will direct Shearer in "Rip Tide", which is already an indication that the material is there for a big feature.



Reports state Alls Well on the Code Front since Nicholas Schenck went into Code Conference

OU ASKED US FOR ANOTHER "GOLD DIGGERS"... WARNER BROS. GIVE YOU TWO MORE "GOLD DIGGERS"!

FOOTLIGHT PARADE



And now "Footlight Parade stands right in the center of the entertainment spotlight"!* Last week at N. Y. Strand "the tremendous world premiere accorded the biggest and brightest of the Warner musicals"* ACTUALLY TOPPED "GOLD DIGGERS'" RECEIPTS on both opening night and first day! Rioting crowds swamped police—closed entire Broadway block to traffic — storming to see this "lavish entertainment"°.... "a worthy successor to 42nd Street and Gold Diggers"!§

*Regina Crewe in N. Y. American °Bland Johaneson in N. Y. Mirror §Kate Cameron in N. Y. Daily News

British Films Coming To Edmonton B.C.

The popularity of British films in Edmonton has greatly increased the bookings for British Films arranged for, and the Edmonton Journal in a recent publication heralds "Impressive Array of British Films Coming".

We note among the British Films scheduled, the famous musical comedy, "That's A Good Girl" starring Jack Buchanan. This musical-comedy ran for one year at the London Hippodrome.

"The Girl From Maxims" another musical, will star Leslie Henson, George Grossmith and Frances Day. "The Private Life of Henry VIII", directed by Korda, and released in Canada through Regal Films, is a British picture which has created a sensation. In fact, those who have seen "The Private Life of Henry VIII" concede it to be the best talking picture ever made. Charles Laughton is the star and plays a great Henry VIII.

Edgar Wallace's "Kongo Raid" is another British film booking, so is "Catharine the Great" with Elizabeth Bergner and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. "Exit Don Juan" is another feature for Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., which will be presented to Edmonton British film lovers.

Jessie Matthews and Owen Nares in "There Goes The Bride", and Claude Allister and Davy Burnaby in "That's My Wife" are also Edmonton bookings.

"Cleaning Up", an original comedy, with the famous stage comedian, George Gee, directed by Leslie Hiscott, looks like a big success. "I'll Stick to You" is another British comedy, of which we cannot have too many. "This Is The Life" is a pretentious production of a comedy with a musical setting. Gordon Harker and Binnie Hale are the stars. Albert de Courville directed "This Is The Life", which was written by Clifford Grey, responsible for that wonder British picture, "Rome Express", the latter released in Canada, through Regal Films, whose Royal Group are creating box-office records.

Gaumont-British production, "The Prince of Wales" will also be presented, and Jack Hulbert will add to his large Canadian following with "Jack Ahoy".

Boris Karloff is to star in "The Ghoul". Martha McKenna's dramatic story, which has created a film sensation, namely "I Was A Spy". It has an all-star cast including Sir Gerald du Maurier.

Other British films are "Orders is Orders", which made such a hit at The Uptown, Toronto; "Paris in Spring" and "Friday the Thirteenth".

Downtown Winnipeg Theatres Play British Pictures

British pictures are to play an important part at the Garrick Theatre in Winnipeg during the new season, according to an announcement by Henry Morton, manager. Already more than twenty British features have been definitely booked, in addition to the acquisition of many American productions of genuine value and merit.

The importance of the Garrick's British policy, however lies chiefly in the fact that for the first time in Winnipeg Motion Picture history a downtown theatre in Winnipeg will exhibit English-made pictures regularly throughout the year. This is eloquent proof of the big "turn in the tide" in the British Film Industry which, through sheer hard work and steady production, has won itself a place of equality with the best Hollywood product—and all in the short space of two years.

Heralding the new British policy at the Garrick is "F. P. 1", the spectacular vision of the future, which opened for a week's engagement at the theatre, Friday, October 13. The picture deals with floating platforms in mid-Atlantic to aid trans-ocean fliers and has already caused a sensation in the United States where it is being released by Fox Films. Following "F. P. 1", the next British feature will be "Heads We Go", co-starring Constance Cummings and Frank Lawton. This delightful comedy marks Miss Cummings' debut in English films, and those who have seen the production are unstinted in their praise of it. "Facing the Music", a fast musical comedy, with Stanley Lupino, will follow. A fine cast supports the star and in it we find the name of Jose Collins, who created the role of Teresa in the original stage production of "Maid of the Mountains".

Possibly the star who is receiving the most attention in Hollywood at the moment is Lillian Harvey, the charming English acrtess. "The Only Girl", a Gaumont-British picture coming to the Garrick, reveals the little actress to excellent advantage.

Other English features booked include "Southern Maid", with Bebe Daniels; John Galsworthy's "Loyalties"; "You Made Me Love You", with Stanley Lupino and Thelma Todd; "Leave It To Me", with Gene Gerrard; "I Spy" with Sally Eilers and Ben Lyon; "The Autumn Crocus", with Ivor Novello and Fay Compton; and "The Song You Gave Me", with Bebe Daniels and Victor Varconi. A Gracie Fields' picture, still untitled, is also slated.

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Write for Your Money Making Dates Now—KEN HACKLEY, care of Canadian Moving Picture Digest, 259 Spadina Ave., Toronto.

Nathanson silent on British Gaumont Capital for Canadian Theatres

Show Business

New Long-Term Contracts Esther Ralston, Myrna Loy

New long-term contracts are announced by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for Esther Ralston and Myrna Loy.

Miss Ralston recently returned to Hollywood from England, where she played in several films.

Miss Loy's recent roles were in "The Barbarian", "When Ladies Meet" and "Penthouse". She is now completing the feminine lead opposite Max Baer in "The Prizefighter and the Lady".

"Son of Kong" RKO Radio October Release

"Son of Kong", a thrilling sequel to the sensational adventure film, "King Kong", heads the list of three productions scheduled for national release by RKO Radio Pictures during the month of October.

Universal announces the purchase of a story by R. C. Sherriff entitled, "A Trip To Mars". This story was written following the adaptation which Sherriff made of H. G. Well's novel, "The Invisible Man", for Universal. "A Trip To Mars" will star Karloff and will be directed by James Whale.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has obtained picture rights to "The Mystery of the Dead Police" by Philip MacDonald, published in this country by Doubleday Doran as a Crime Club selection. MacDonald is the author of several Crime Club books.

James Cagney as Singer and Dancer, "Footlight Parade"

Telegrams from the brightest lights of stage, screen and radio are pouring in on James Cagney in Hollywood, congratulating him on his screen debut as a singer and dancer in "Footlight Parade", the Warner Bros. musical picture which had its world premiere last week at the New York Strand Theatre. These telegrams have come spontaneously since the senders saw the film at previews.

New Film for Cicely Courtneidge

The new Cicely Courtneidge picture "Aunt Sally", is being produced at the Gainsborough Studios, Islington, England. This production is being directed by Tim Whelan who also directed "It's a Boy".

Ramon Novarro Plans Concerts Abroad

Italy, Greece and Cairo are next season to hear Ramon Novarro in concert, according to the newly-made plans of the famous screen star and concert artist. Between scenes in "The Cat and the Fiddle", in which he and Jeanette MacDonald are co-starring at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, Novarro is working on new songs—songs in many languages, for next season's tour, which will be far more extensive than the last.

Casting is completed and production is scheduled to start within a week on Vitaphone's two-reel burlesque of "Dinner At Eight", it was announced by Sam Sax, production chief at the film company's Brooklyn studios.

Toronto Theatres

ROYAL ALEXANDRA -- "Dinner At Eight", Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production. Second week.

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein — "Broadway to Hollywood", a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture, with Alice Brady, Jimmy Durante, Frank Morgan, Jackie Cooper, and Madge Evans.

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley — "Too Much Harmony", with Bing Crosbie, Jack Oakie and Lilyan Tashman, a Paramount picture.

IMPERIAL—Manager Jack Arthur — Will Rogers in "Doctor Bull", a Fox production.

TIVOLI—Manager Alfred Sedgwick — Buster Crabbe in "Tarzan the Fearless", a Principal picture.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — "One Sunday Afternoon", with Gary Cooper, a Paramount picture. On the stage, Thurston, the Magician.

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No Wonder the Big Circuits and All the Leading Independents Are Booking "The Royal Group!"

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